State Representative Eric Koch House District 65

Legislative Survey





Rep. Koch speaking at Shawswick Middle School on Constitution Day.

As the 2007 legislative session begins, I ask that you share your thoughts on important issues that our state will face. In the past, much of the legislation I have worked on has been initiated with proposals from those I represent.

Included in my newsletter is a legislative survey which I hope you will complete so that I know your opinions on topics which the General Assembly may be considering.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns, suggestions, or proposals for the 2007 session.

State Rep. Koch

How to Contact

If you have a question regarding state government, there are three ways you can contact Rep. Koch:

<u>Mail</u>

State Rep. Eric Koch 200 W. Washington Room 401 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Telephone (800) 382-9841

E-mail H65@in.gov

Best wishes,

Eric Koch

State Representative

12 Point Plan for Indiana's Progress

- 1. **Balance the 2008-09 State Budget** with no general tax increases, accounting gimmicks, or dedicated fund transfers to artificially balance Indiana's books.
- 2. **Crack Down on Illegal Immigration** by broadening State Police powers to enforce federal immigration laws and ensuring that state benefits are awarded only to legal Indiana residents.
- 3. **Expand our Job Creation Success** and promote job growth in the small business sector, where 75% of Hoosier jobs are created.
- 4. **Create Access to Affordable Healthcare** with common sense market- based solutions like providing tax credits for Worksite Health Programs, a Health Insurance Premium Deduction, and allowing coverage by a parent's policy until the age of 24.
- 5. **Reform the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV)** by providing a 30-minute guarantee at the BMV and other measures to improve service and efficiency.
- 6. Honor and Support Hoosier Veterans and Active Military by increasing financial assistance to those who are serving today and their families, and honoring veterans for their service.
- **7. Empower Indiana Schools** by providing more resources, more flexibility and more incentives for schools, teachers, parents, and students.
- 8. **End Partisan Gerrymandering** of Indiana's legislative and congressional districts for political gain by the party in control of the Indiana House at the end of each decade.

Page Opportunities

Through the Indiana House Page Program, any student 13 years of age or older gets the chance to come to the Statehouse and see a full day of legislative activity. Along with visiting the capitol building and touring the governor's office, the chambers of the Indiana House and Senate and the Indiana Supreme Court, pages get the chance to see floor sessions and committee meetings and help staff members. Students who serve as pages receive an excused absence from school. Students interested in serving as a page for Rep. Koch can apply online at http://www.in.gov/legislative/house_republicans/student/pageindex.html or call the House Page Office at 1-800-382-9841.

Statehouse Visits

During the legislative session, I enjoy meeting with groups visiting the Statehouse from our district. If you or your organization are interested in visiting with me at the Statehouse, please contact my legislative assistant Eric Shields at 1-800-382-9841.

How Can I Help You?

As your state representative, I enjoy helping constituents with issues concerning state government. My office can assist constituents with matters such as cutting through bureaucratic red tape, support for grant requests, recognition of special occasions and accomplishments, and speaking requests. For constituent services, please contact my legislative assistant Eric Shields at 1-800-382-9841.

- 9. **Provide for Indiana's Energy Needs** with a focus on 'Hoosier Homegrown Energy' by making bio-diesel and ethanol more available to consumers and reducing our reliance on foreign oil.
- 10. **Get Tough on Crime** by requiring violent felons to serve more of their sentence, protecting children from Internet sexual predators, requiring federal background checks on caregivers of the elderly, and protecting all Hoosiers from identity theft, violent offenders, and meth dealers.
- 11. **Let Hoosiers Speak on Traditional Marriage** by voting in the 115th General Assembly on SJR7 the amendment to define marriage as a union between one man and one woman and placing SJR7 on a referendum ballot for Indiana voters to consider in November of 2008.
- 12. Permanently Eliminate Taxpayer Funded Lifetime Healthcare Benefits for House Members through legislation to be introduced in the 2007 legislative session. Last year, Republican Le



Fourth grade students from Sprunica Elementary visit Rep. Koch at the Statehouse on Statehood Day.

introduced in the 2007 legislative session. Last year, Republican Leader Brian Bosma eliminated the benefit administratively.

State Representative Koch's 2007 Legislative Survey

Visit my website at **www.in.gov/h65** to complete this survey online and send me additional comments.

If there are two voters in your household, please have voter one respond in the first column and voter two in the second column. Please give one answer for each question. When finished with the survey, cut along the dotted line, fold the survey and return it to my office. Please do not fill out this survey using red ink. The presence of an issue in	Yes No have no opinion	res No have no opinion
Voter 1 Gender (optional) ☐ Male ☐ Female this survey does not necessarily indicate Rep.	ve no	ve no
Voter 2 Gender (optional) ☐ Male ☐ Female Koch's support for the issue.	Yes No I ha	Yes No I ha
1) Would you support a program that gives more funding and control to local law enforcement to detain illegal aliens for deportation?		
2) Should Indiana taxpayers pay the approximately \$100 million cost for textbook rentals currently paid by students and their families?		
3) The cost to provide full-day kindergarten to all children is approximately \$200 million per year. In the upcoming budget, should the state make the funding of full-day kindergarten a top state budget priority?		
4) Is a locally controlled, optional full day kindergarten program funded by the state a better idea than a state controlled, mandatory full day kindergarten program?		
5) Would you support a requirement that limits state-funded college tuition increases to the rate of inflation?		
6) Would you support the creation of a new Central Indiana bypass that would be funded by tolls it eliminated the potential need for tolls on the I-69 expansion from Indianapolis to Evansville?		
7) It is estimated it would cost about \$1 billion to provide subsidized health insurance for		
Hoosiers who currently have no health coverage. Are you in favor of this idea?		
8) Property taxes across Indiana total \$5.7 billion. To raise enough money to totally eliminate property taxes the individual income tax would have to be increased from 3.4% to 6% and the sales tax would have to be increased from 6% to 9%. Would you favor raising the income and sales tax rates in order to eliminate all property taxes?		
9) During the 2006 session, the legislature passed a "circuit breaker" provision which limits a property owner's tax bill no more than 2% of assessed value. This will result in a loss of revenue to some local governments and schools starting in 2008. Should the legislature repeal the circuit breaker and allow tax bills to exceed 2% of assessed value?	to	
10) A legislative study committee of local government is considering moving township government responsibilities (poor relief, property assessment, and fire protection) into county operations as a way to reduce operating costs. Do you favor eliminating the township level of government?		
Commenter		
Comments:		
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Rep. Koch presents Indiana Arts Commission grants to: (Left)Peaceful Valley Chamber Players, Early Music in Motion, Friends of T.C. Steele State Historic Site, (Right) Lawrence County Historical & Genealogical Society, and North Lawrence Community Schools.

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